

United Way Of Mercer County Funded Agencies
Mission Statements – Funded Programs
 April 1, 2009 – March 31, 2010

Agency – Program Allocation Amount	Mission Statements	United Way of Mercer County Funded Programs
<p>American Red Cross – Mercer & Trumbull County Chapters</p> <p>1. Disaster Services</p> <p>2. Armed Forces/Emergency Services -</p> <p>3. Health, Safety & Community Services</p>	<p>The American Red Cross, a humanitarian organization led by volunteers and guided by its Congressional charter and the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross Movement, will provide relief to victims of disasters and help people prevent, prepare for, and respond to emergencies</p>	<p><u>1. Disaster Services:</u> This is one of the most widely recognized and is considered the cornerstone of all Red Cross services. The Red Cross is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, providing assistance to victims of natural or man-made disaster. Teams are highly trained, dedicated volunteers willing to respond to the scene of a disaster.</p> <p><u>2. Armed Forces/Emergency Services:</u> This is the only congressionally mandated agency to provide this service. Acts as a point of contact and verification agent for active military members and their families during emergencies.</p> <p><u>3. Health, Safety & Community Services:</u> Includes CPR, First Aid, AED, Swimming, Life guarding, HIV/AIDS education, and mission-related care giving. Provides and delivers the highest quality products and services; is responsive to the diverse needs of the American people; is accessible, affordable, and culturally inclusive; is consistent with the fundamental principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Provides the public with direct access to vitally important information on health and safety topics.</p>
<p>A.R.C. of Mercer County (MCAR)</p> <p>1. Prevocational Center</p>	<p>To provide quality, comprehensive services to people with mental retardation and/or developmental disabilities that afford them the</p> <p>Opportunities to make choices about where they live, work, recreate, while assisting them to develop the necessary skills to function as vital members of the community.</p>	<p><u>1. Prevocational Center:</u> Vocational Habilitation and adult training provides opportunities for persons with cognitive and developmental disabilities to develop work skills, work attitudes while earning a wage and continuing education. Finished subcontract is provided to area business and industry to meet their production demands. Staff supports individuals in</p> <p>Job development, job coaching, job support and follow up, in order to obtain and maintain competitive employment in their community. Persons with disabilities are provided with opportunities to work in both prevocational center and competitive employment. Staff provides necessary support, including transportation. Individuals' self-esteem</p>

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<p>A.R.C. of Mercer County (MCAR) (continued)</p> <p>2. STEPS</p> <p>3. Provocational Center</p>		<p>improves, as they become productive members of their community.</p> <p><u>2. STEPS</u> : Individuals will receive services that include working on subcontract work, job and work skills, peer interaction, community education and career building.</p> <p><u>3. Provocational Center</u>: Services include: volunteering, job training, job education, education to families and school districts to prevail philosophies and trends. Individuals will receive services that include working on subcontract work, job and work skills, peer interaction, community education and career building.</p>
<p>Brandy Springs Park</p> <p>Community Service -</p>	<p>Our mission is to provide recreation for the community and to provide a means to prevent juvenile delinquency.</p>	<p><u>Community Service</u>: The Park has approximately 55 acres, a pond; an Optimist Club meeting building and a large community building that can be rented for use. There are two swimming pools in the Park, three girls' softball fields, three boys' baseball fields, one double tennis court, two basketball courts, and a large playground with good equipment. The park has five pavilions, which accommodate residents from a wide area. The board promotes the use of the park by as many as possible regardless of age. The park is used by the school for cross country, baseball and basketball activities.</p>
<p>Catholic Charities Counseling and Adoption Services</p> <p>Counseling</p>	<p>Faithful to Christ's mission of love, Catholic Charities Counseling and Adoption Services is a non-profit organization serving communities throughout the Catholic Diocese of Erie. Our mission is to provide professional counseling and adoption services and other programs that educate, affirm, and support individuals of all faiths to achieve their fullest human potential.</p>	<p><u>Counseling</u>: Individual counseling for adults, adolescents, and children focuses on age-appropriate problem solving skills, coping skills, improved mood and self-esteem, enhanced communication and interpersonal relationship skills, and supports setting a positive perspective to address life's challenges. Family counseling addresses all of the above interventions with an increased emphasis on family communication and family dynamics. Couples counseling also address all of the interventions listed above with an increased emphasis on interpersonal communication.</p>

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<p>Children’s Center of Mercer County</p> <p>Early Intervention – Shoot for the Stars -</p>	<p>The Children’s Center of Mercer County is a community-based environment committed to providing optimal educational, developmental, and social opportunities for all children to reach their full potential regardless of their challenges.</p>	<p><u>Shoot for the Stars:</u> The program provides specialized educational and therapeutic services to all children in Mercer County. Programs focus on children ages 3-5 who have been tested, evaluated, and found to have at least 25% developmental delay. Major program focus is early intervention in the classroom setting with speech/physical/occupational therapy etc., to prepare them for ongoing public/private education. Children receive specialized assistance with developing cognitive skills, fine and gross motor functions, language development, socialization skills, and many other specialized facets of early development. Instructors provide guidance to needed support services in the community in order to assist the families in helping their children reach their full potential.</p>
<p>Community Counseling Center</p> <p>Outpatient Program</p>	<p>Our mission is to help individuals and families attain healthy and fulfilling lives.</p>	<p><u>Outpatient Program:</u> This program provides comprehensive mental health assessment, psychotherapy, psychiatric assessment, psychopharmacology, and case management services to adults, adolescents and children who have mental health needs. Services for clients typically follow three stages of care: (1) Initial Mental Health Assessment (2) Psychotherapy (with, or without Psychopharmacology), (3) Continued Care for Stabilization Management, (4) Discharge Planning. These services address mental health problems covering a wide spectrum of severity, from adjustment disorders to more profound mood disorders and schizophrenia. Treatment strategies are tailored to the specific problems presented by the client. In all cases the treatment provided is directed by a Plan of Treatment, which includes specific, measurable, time-targeted goals. All services are approved and supervised by a psychiatrist.</p>

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<p>Buhl Community Recreation Center</p> <p>1. ACLD</p> <p>2. Aquatics</p> <p>Greenville Area Leisure Services (GALSA)</p> <p>Community Recreation Program –</p>	<p>The mission of the Buhl Community Recreation Center is to provide quality recreational, social wellness and educational programs for people of all ages in our community.</p> <p>To provide an outlet for people of all ages to spend their leisure time by presenting programs, and special events to the Greenville Community and Northern Mercer County service area.</p>	<p><u>1. ACLD:</u> This program offers four programs: 1) Visual Motor Program, for children with visual-perceptual problems. This is a social group program known as the Explorers Club. 2) 1:1 Tutoring Service, for students who are learning disabled. They may be frustrated with their inability to learn in spite of the intelligence they possess. 3) Computer Program, to enhance and enrich the student's tutor session. 4) Advocacy and parent support is a continuing service.</p> <p><u>2. Aquatics Program:</u> The pool provides adult swim, youth swim, exercise classes, swimming lessons for adult and children, synchronize swimming team, water ballet outdoor team, scuba and lifeguard courses. The program addresses exercise and recreation for general populations, especially seniors and their flexibility. Also water safety for children.</p> <p><u>Community Recreation Program:</u> All programs are based on seasonal weather. During the winter, activities are designed to utilize gym space, meeting rooms, audio/visual equipment, art room equipment, etc. In the other seasons, activities are designed to use both outdoor and indoor facilities.</p>

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<p>Girl Scouts of Penn Lakes Council</p> <p>Daisy Girl Scouts</p>	<p>Girl Scouting builds girls of confidence, courage and character, who make the world a better place.</p>	<p><u>Daisy Girl Scouts</u>: Provides unique opportunities to allow every girl in kindergarten through Grade 3 to easily take part in the programming at our facilities within Mercer County, Camp Trefoil Trails and Pine Grove Lodge. The Girl Scout program is rich in a variety of contemporary and traditional activities designed to build self-esteem, help girls develop and understand their values, combat negative peer pressure, strengthen their decision and social skills, and develop realistic and positive options for their future. Programs are regularly designed and updated to appeal to girls within the five age levels. As part of the largest, all-girl organization in the world, Penn Lakes is committed to maintain the highest level of service to girls, and for 93 years, Girl Scouting has provided girls with a supportive, nurturing environment in which they can make friends, learn new skills, and explore different ideas and opinions.</p>
<p>Mental Health Association</p> <p>1. Advocacy</p> <p>2. After Care Socialization -</p> <p>3. Friend in Your Pocket -</p> <p>4. Public Education</p>	<p>The mission of the Mental Health Association of Mercer County, Inc. is to provide public education regarding, and awareness of, mental illness and to improve the quality of life for persons with mental illness and their family members.</p>	<p><u>1. Advocacy</u>: This program serves as a voice for consumers to advocate throughout the community for both their legal and human rights. This program addresses problems such as housing, nutrition, inheritances, family, and financial abuses.</p> <p><u>2. After Care Socialization</u>: This program allows clients to move toward more normalization in their lives. It provides an atmosphere of relaxed participation that reduces stress and adds pleasure to life. Some program initiatives include free picnics, hot-dog roasts and full-course dinners, and bingo.</p> <p><u>3. Friend in Your Pocket</u>: These cards provide information for confidential help in times of need or in times of crisis. They are distributed to all school students.</p> <p><u>4. Public Education</u>: This program seeks to distribute information such as news articles, pamphlets, etc. to correct misapprehension and to provide accurate scientific/medical information to the general public. The agency provides a quarterly newsletter called "Promise" that is mailed to more</p>

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<p>5. Representative Payee</p> <p>6. Cooking Smart</p> <p>7. Transportation -</p> <p>8. Warren State Hospital Van Service -</p>		<p>than 700 individuals within the community, including educators.</p> <p><u>5. Representative Payee:</u> In this program, Social Security checks are directly deposited into an agency checking account for the consumer. From this account, rent, utility, and food monies are distributed to the appropriate vendors. The balance of the money is then divided throughout the month for sundries. Clients in this program are never more than seven days away from receiving additional monies.</p> <p><u>Cooking Smart:</u> This program is an educational class that teaches fast easy ways of making nutritious meals. Participants will learn about basic nutrition, proper food handling, and cooking and storage techniques.</p> <p><u>Transportation:</u> This program is geared for the mentally disabled, and will provide transportation to those who are not able to use the public transit system.</p> <p>8. Warren State Hospital Van Service: MHAMC arranges the transportation to and from Warren State Hospital for family members & friends of patients.</p>
<p>Mercer Area Library</p> <p>Public Library Service</p>	<p>Mercer Area Library is a community agency serving informational, educational and recreational needs of the Mercer School District and surrounding areas.</p>	<p><u>Public Library Service:</u> The program provides access to a useful collection of print and non-print materials to residents of Mercer Area School District and outlying areas. Access to the internet and other technology is included in services provided. Library programs are provided for various groups, to expose patrons to literature and knowledge-based activities.</p>

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<p>Mercer County Juvenile Advisory Council, Inc.</p> <p>Court-Appointed Special Advocate Program (CASA)</p>	<p>The Mercer County Juvenile Advisory Council, Inc. is organized for the purpose of combating juvenile delinquency and dependency, and preventing abuse to children by improving community services to families of high-risk children and adolescents within Mercer County.</p>	<p><u>CASA</u>: This program is based on the concept that every child has the right to a safe, permanent home. The CASA program provides trained volunteers to speak up for abused and neglected children in court to ensure a safe, permanent, and happy home. They serve, at no cost to taxpayers, as an additional safety net to ensure a child does not get lost in the overburdened court and social service system, and does not return to an unsafe home. The program is two-fold: the volunteer establishes a relationship of trust with the child by spending time with the child, and advocates for the best interest of the child whether it is to return home, be freed for adoption, or live with another relative.</p>

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<p>Salvation Army – Shenango Valley Corp.</p> <p>1. Comprehensive Direct Assistance -</p> <p>2. Housing -</p> <p>3. Social Services</p> <p>4. Senior Services</p>	<p>The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His Name, without discrimination.</p>	<p><u>1. Comprehensive Direct Assistance:</u> This program offers a variety of direct, material, and financial-assistance programs, which address an array of specific needs. They include Bundle-Up, Summer Camp, Crisis Counseling, weekly bread and pastries distribution, League of Mercy, regular monthly food distribution during the morning and evening hours, emergency food distribution, Project Reach, Thanksgiving Day dinner, Sheetz Family Christmas program and Treasures for Children toys program.</p> <p><u>2. Housing:</u> The Salvation Army provides short-term (maximum of 60 days) emergency housing for residents of Mercer County. Case records, client intake information, processing, and maintenance of service records on each client, with the consideration of client confidentiality, are maintained.</p> <p><u>3. Social Development:</u> This program provides the following: Boys Club, Girl Guards, Home League, Men’s Club, and Sunbeams. These programs offer a safe, welcome environment in which participants feel needed and loved. They supplement the individual’s home, school, and work life, with opportunities to fellowship and establish support systems with others sharing their circumstances. The programs also give valuable educational opportunities and an avenue for the participants to use their talents on behalf of others, thus enhancing self-esteem and worth.</p>
<p>Salvation Army –Greenville Corps Community Center</p> <p>1. Comprehensive Direct Assistance –</p>	<p>The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church. Its message is based on the Bible Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His Name, without discrimination.</p>	<p><u>1. Comprehensive Assistance:</u> The Salvation Army supports those in crisis by meeting pressing needs and providing support to low-income families. We are able to provide direct resources for the following needs; utilities, clothing, emergency food, shelter, disaster services, and counseling referrals to other agencies and general assistance. We will also offer Christmas toys and food baskets, winter outerwear, and weekly bread distribution. Summer residential respite for children and seniors who fall within the scope of our direct practice assistance program.</p>

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<p>Shenango Valley Y.M.C.A.</p> <p>1. After School Program at Chaver's Community Center</p> <p>2. Strong Kids - Youth Development Program</p>	<p>To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all. To increase our community's capacity to address health and human care needs of families and individuals through the effective generation and distribution of resources, by the combined leadership of volunteers and professional staff.</p>	<p><u>1. After School Program at Chaver's Community Center:</u> Provides for a drop-in center with structured activities available around the drop-in center. The center provides a safe, wholesome atmosphere. Children are free to explore new things, learn better socialization skills and learn the core values of caring, respect, honesty and responsibility. In addition children are counseled concerning life skills, provided a nutritious snack and afforded the opportunity to just be kids! The program includes a homework help component, snack time, and structured activities in the gym.</p> <p><u>2. Youth Development Program:</u> The program offers youth sports (soccer, t-ball, basketball); instructional classes (karate, tumbling, swim lessons, and other specialties); Fit kids and teen fitness; Swim Team, Day Camp; recreational opportunities through YMCA membership; and a financial assistance program that will be proactive in insuring that no child is left out because of the inability to pay the fee. All activities will meet strict YMCA standards as to philosophy and safety.</p>
<p>United Way of Mercer County</p> <p>Success By 6 Pre-K Program</p>		<p><u>Success By 6</u> is an early childhood movement led by the United Way. It is a community-based, public-private partnership of individuals and organizations that share a common vision – children ready to succeed when they enter school. Success By 6 is rooted in the belief that a community working together toward a common vision can generate an effective plan to improve the outcomes for children. In addition to being</p>

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<p>A.W.A.R.E.</p> <p>Youth Education Project</p> <p>Good Shepherd Center, Inc.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food Pantry - 2. Directors Discretionary 3. Rent & Utilities - 	<p>AWARE is committed to providing education, support and advocacy for all people in Mercer County impacted by domestic and sexual violence.</p> <p>Good Shepherd Center mission is to address the physical needs of the economically challenged in the greater Greenville area.</p>	<p>community-based and outcome-driven, Success By 6 is focused on prevention. Research on brain development, quality childcare, and the benefits of early intervention provides the foundation for Success By 6 and provides the stimulus for community activism. This program is a joint collaboration between Farrell, Hermitage, Mercer, Sharon, Sharpsville and West Middlesex school districts, Mercer County Head Start and the United Way of Mercer County. Our program takes up to 20 students from the 6 districts, which may not have a good educational background at home and helps provide them with basic instruction so that when they reach Kindergarten and 1st grade they aren't behind others their age.</p> <p><u>Youth Education Project:</u> AWARE will be able to bring a menu of single topic and risk-reducing educational programming to six (6) Mercer County public, middle and high schools. Blending the education services with the direct services advocacy, AWARE will challenge the climate of power and control in youth culture. Child victims will be able to receive individual and group services on a routine and continuing basis.</p> <p><u>1. Food Pantry:</u> The Good Shepherd food pantry supplies the basic need for food to those in the greater Greenville area.</p> <p><u>2. Directors Discretionary Fund:</u> will provide emergency and supplemental food to those in the greater Greenville area.</p> <p><u>3. Rent & Utilities:</u> This program provides monies to clients in the greater Greenville area to help forestall evictions, and restore utility services to client's homes.</p>

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Mercer County Family Center -	The Mission of the Mercer County Family Center is to support children and their families by emphasizing positive child development, encouraging economic self-sufficiency, connecting families to needed services and establishing an early positive link between families and schools.	Provide quality preschool experience to children who are above income guidelines of existing programs and unable to afford private preschool in the four participating school districts. The program will place emphasis on extending learning into the home environment, while developing an early/ positive link between the family and the school.